



Joe Laydon <laydonj@grafton-ma.gov>

## [Town of Grafton MA] Concern for Trails on 155 George Hill etc property (Sent by Robert Aberg, wildcatrob@gmail.com)

Contact form at Town of Grafton MA <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>

Reply-To: wildcatrob@gmail.com To: planningdept@grafton-ma.gov Fri, Aug 9, 2019 at 10:03 AM

Hello Planning Department,

Robert Aberg (wildcatrob@gmail.com) has sent you a message via your contact form (https://www.grafton-ma.gov/user/14766/contact) at Town of Grafton MA.

If you don't want to receive such e-mails, you can change your settings at https://www.grafton-ma.gov/user/14766/edit.

Message:

I am writing to register concern for the lack of consideration for the trails and potentially archaeologically significant anchient Nipmuc Trail on the properties under consideration for the "Request for Special Permit (SP 2019-6/SPA) and Site Plan Approval and Scenic Road Permit at 155 George Hill Road, 23 Rear Leland Street and 29 Rear Leland Street".

The trails are well know in the community and are a vital connection from Hassanamesit Woods eastward to Upton's "Stefan's Farm" trail network, and northward to Pell Farms and the Warren Brook Watershed trails that lead into Upton State Forest, Hopkinton, and Westoboro beyond. Severing this link would partially separate Grafton from the regional trail system.

Some evidence demonstrating long-standing establishment and future plans for the region include:

- 1) The Grafton Assessor's property use code is horse trails for 155 George Hill Road, 23 Rear Leland Street and 29 Rear Leland Street, so it is documented there as well.
- Stefan's Farm (park in Upton) trail network:

https://www.uptonma.gov/sites/uptonma/files/uploads/stewardship\_plans.pdf

Local trail riders maps:

http://ridgevalleystables.com/localtrail\_christmastree.html

4) Local mountain bike maps, e.g.:

https://www.trailforks.com/region/grafton-1525450142/?activitytype=6&z=13.5&lat=42.18876&lon=-71.65672

Preservation of these routes will provide a vital link from Grafton eastward and northward as outlined in the Grafton 2007 Open Space Plan.

Sincerely,

Robert Aberg, President **Grafton Land Trust** 

PS - I am also on the Grafton Historical Commission, hence my concern for preserving the Nipmuc Trail

RECEIVED

AUG -

- 9 2019

PLANNING BOARD GRAFTON, MA